IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A fuel injector for metering, atomizing, and spray targeting fuel, the fuel injector comprising:

a seat including a passage extending along a longitudinal axis;

a movable member cooperating with the seat to permit and prevent a flow of fuel through the passage; and

an orifice plate including:

a member including first and second generally parallel surfaces, the first surface generally confront the valve seat, and the second surface facing opposite the first surface; and

an orifice penetrating the member and being defined by a wall coupling the first and second surfaces, the wall including:

a first portion extending from the first surface, the first portion of the wall extending at a first oblique angle with respect to the first surface, ~~and~~ the first oblique angle ~~varying so as to define~~ defining an asymmetrical chamfer; and

a second portion extending between, and in communication with, the first portion and the second surface, the second portion of the wall defining a cylinder extending along an axis at a second oblique angle with respect to the second surface,

a perimeter being defined by the cylinder, the perimeter lying in a plane that is oblique with respect to the first surface.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The fuel injector according to claim 1 ~~2~~, wherein at least a portion of the perimeter is contiguous ~~to~~ with the first surface.

4. (Currently Amended) The fuel injector according to claim 1, wherein the first oblique angle is within a range of oblique angles with respect to ~~varies about~~ the orifice axis.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The fuel injector according to claim 4 ~~5~~, wherein the first oblique angle is ~~varies~~ in a first range between 25 to 30 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis and the second oblique angle is ~~varies~~ in a second range between 3 and 10 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis.

7. (Currently Amended) An orifice plate for a fuel injector including a passage extending between an inlet and an outlet, and a seat proximate the outlet and cooperating with a closure member to permit and prevent a flow of fuel through the passage, the orifice plate comprising:

a member including first and second generally parallel surfaces, the first surface being adapted to generally confront the valve seat, and the second surface facing opposite the first surface; and

an orifice penetrating the member and being defined by a wall coupling the first and second surfaces, the wall including:

a first portion extending from the first surface, the first portion of the wall extending at a first oblique angle with respect to the first surface, ~~and~~ the first oblique angle ~~varying so as to define~~ defining an asymmetrical chamfer; and

a second portion extending between, and in communication with, the first portion and the second surface, the second portion of the wall defining a cylinder extending along an axis at a second oblique angle with respect to the second surface,

a perimeter being defined by the cylinder, the perimeter lying in a plane that is oblique with respect to the first surface.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) The orifice plate according to claim 7 ~~8~~, wherein at least a portion of the perimeter is contiguous with ~~to~~ the first surface.

10. (Currently Amended) The orifice plate according to claim 7, wherein the first oblique angle is within a range of oblique angles with respect to ~~varies about~~ the orifice axis.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The orifice plate according to claim 10 ~~11~~, wherein the first oblique angle is ~~varies~~ in a first range between 25 to 30 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis, and the second oblique angle is ~~varies~~ in a second range between 3 and 10 degrees relative to the longitudinal axis.

13-25 (Canceled)